

August 12, 2005

**PRESS RELEASE**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA  
Richard D. Sletten, Clerk  
316 North Robert Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101**

**FEDERAL COURTHOUSE IN ST. PAUL BEING VACATED  
COURT WILL USE INTERIM SPACE**

Judge Richard Kyle announced today that the renovation of the Warren Burger Federal Courthouse, located on Kellogg and Robert Streets in downtown St. Paul will begin in October, 2005. The building will be completely renovated to meet a modern court's operational needs. Judge Kyle said, "The new courthouse, which will be located within the walls of our existing building, will include four new courtrooms, along with a more attractive entrance and an integrated security screening system."

The present courthouse, which was designed and constructed in the 1960's, no longer provides the public, federal detainees, or the court and jurors with the services and security they need. According to Judge Kyle, the renovated facility will have, "enhanced prisoner circulation and holding, upgraded technology, modern lighting and sound systems, and appropriate spaces for jurors, litigants and the public."

In order to accomplish the building program, the Judges located in St. Paul, as well as their staff, and other court units and agencies – all of whom presently occupy the building, are preparing to vacate the property on September 30, 2005 and will not return for up to three years. During this time, the Courthouse will be renovated.

"The Federal Court will continue to perform its work in St. Paul in interim space, beginning October 3, 2005. The temporary quarters are located at 180 East Fifth Street in downtown

St. Paul.” This space will include chambers, courtrooms, a Clerk’s Office, and will provide office space for government tenants.

The Federal Court has decided to hold all of its in-custody criminal matters in the Minneapolis Courthouse, located at 300 South Fourth Street in downtown Minneapolis. Kyle said “This decision means the St. Paul Judges and Magistrate Judges will travel to Minneapolis on a regular basis and use a variety of courtrooms to conduct in-custody matters.” Their travel will be matched by their Minneapolis counterparts who will frequently travel to St. Paul to conduct civil matters. This inter-Cities program is expected to commence September 12, 2005, and will continue until the St. Paul Courthouse re-opens.

U.S. District Judge Richard H. Kyle is the Court's liaison for the St. Paul renovation project and interim space construction. He said, “Our Court’s project will require flexibility on all of our parts. We have chosen this path because it makes good fiscal sense for the Court to leave the building during construction.”

Watch the Court’s web site for further information on courtroom sharing, a map to the interim courthouse, and important announcements regarding the move as well as scheduling in-custody matters in Minneapolis. The web site can be accessed at [www.mnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov).